

Arizona/Sonora Regional Workgroup

Summary of 2012-2014 Action Plan

March 10, 2015

46 total actions, 21 completed, 5 canceled, 20 will continue in new Action Plan

Goal	Total Actions	Completed	Cancelled	Rolled-over to 2015-2016 Plan
Air	14	6	2	6
Water	13	7	0	6
Land	7	1	3	3
Emergency Response	4	3	0	1
Compliance/Stewardship	5	2	0	3
Environmental Health	3	2	0	1
Total	46	21	5	20

Notable Accomplishments

Air

- Constructed a 16MW solar park (Tucson) that is displacing over 16,000 tons of CO₂, 11 tons of NO_x and 17 tons of SO_x per year. The plant generates enough electricity to power 2100 homes.
- Approved a PM-10 State Implementation Plan for Nogales, Arizona to reduce PM10 emissions.
- Upgraded the Arizona border air monitoring network with four new air quality monitors in Nogales, Yuma, and two in Douglas, AZ.

Water

- Connected 13,259 additional homes to wastewater service in Arizona and Sonora.
- Installed a 1.5MW solar array at the Los Alisos Wastewater Treatment Plant in Sonora. The photovoltaic plant displaces approximately 1.76 million pounds of CO₂/year.
- Conducted energy audits at utilities in San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora and Wilcox, Arizona to identify energy savings opportunities. Identified over \$140,000 in energy savings per year.

Land

- Increased public and private sector knowledge on sound management of electronic waste (e-waste) via webinars showcasing the Responsible Recycling (R2) and E-stewards certification programs. Reached over 150 participants.

Emergency Preparedness & Response

- Equipped Bomberos in Sonora with Level A, B, and C suits and radiation monitors through a \$200k donation by the State of Arizona in the spring of 2014.
- First Responder training and Table Top Exercises were conducted in Rio Rico and Agua Prieta to improve binational emergency preparedness, including: First Responder Awareness/Operations; Traffic Incident Management Systems; Train derailment and full scale gas line explosion drills.

Future Priorities

A gap analysis will be conducted to inform future funding priorities. The following priorities are underway:

Air

- Quantify emissions from idling vehicles at the Nogales commercial port-of-entry to better understand this source of pollution and identify possible emission reduction strategies.
- Conduct ongoing O&M and data reporting of Nogales, Sonora and Arizona monitors to better understand the binational transport of PM pollution in the binational air shed.

Water

- Connect an additional 720 households to wastewater treatment in Sonoyta, Sonora and Holtville, California, and Bisbee, Arizona.

Land

- Collect over 55 tons of e-waste in communities in Arizona and Sonora, build municipal capacity to implement productive e-waste collection events, and promote best management practices and demand for certified recyclers.

Emergency Preparedness & Response

- Update Sister City Plans for: Ambos Nogales, Yuma/San Luis, and Douglas-Agua Prieta.

Enhance Compliance Assurance and Environmental Stewardship

- Report on toxics releases and high emitters located within the Arizona/Sonora border region, using EPA's Toxics Release Inventory. Work with SEMARNAT to harmonize a similar effort for Sonora.

Environmental Health Fundamental Strategy:

- Implement newly signed Collaborative Agreement between EPA and USBHC on environmental health. Identified actions to be implemented in the next two years include:
 - Workshops and training during Border Binational Health Week.
 - Establish a Pediatric Environmental Health Unit along the border.
 - Assess the state of Environmental Health along the border.
 - Create environmental health curriculum targeted to Promotores.